REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated November 14, 2002, the drawings, specification, abstract and claims 3-5 have been amended, claims 1 and 2 have been cancelled and new claims 6 and 7 added. Specifically, a substitute specification, as required by the Examiner, is submitted herewith. No new matter has been added.

The drawings have been objected to as failing to show detailed labels for each element in Figures 1 and 2. The drawings have been amended as indicated in the attached drawings correction.

The specification has been objected to for various informalities. The specification and abstract are hereby amended to remove the noted informalities. With respect to the abstract, the term "B-ISDN" is a term of art. No new matter has been added.

Claims 3 and 4 have been objected to due to informalities. Claims 3 and 4 has been amended to remove the noted informalities.

Claims 1-5 have been rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Claims 3-5 have been amended to conform with 35 USC 112, second paragraph. With respect to claims 1 and 2, these claims, per the preliminary amendment, properly conform to 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

Claims 1-5 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Blumhardt (European Application No. 0 669 748 A2) in view of Nagao Ogino ("A Multi-Agent Base Bandwidth Allocation Scheme"). The rejection is moot in view of the newly filed claims, and is respectfully traversed.

Blumhardt fails to disclose the service parameters are quality of service parameters, as indicated by the Examiner. The Examiner cites Ogino as disclosing same. Ogino, however, is not a proper reference. Specifically, the publication date of the Ogino reference is November 1997, after the filing date of August 28, 1997 of the present application. Hence, the references fail to disclose every claimed feature.

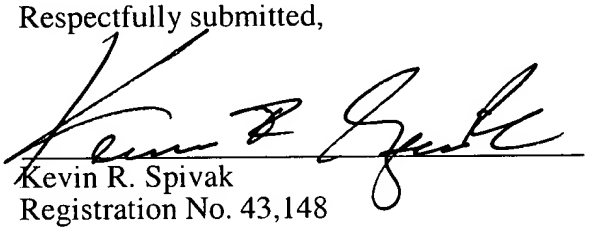
In view of the foregoing, claims 3-7 are patentable and in condition for allowance. An indication of the same is solicited.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made**".

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 449122017400.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 14, 2003

By: 

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1 and 2.

Please amend the claims as follows.

3. (Amended) The method according to claim 6, wherein [Method [..] one of the preceding claims, whereby] the communication network is [a matter of] a broadband communication network, and whereby the quality of service parameter is [a matter of] the band width made available.

4. (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 6, further comprising [Method according to one of the preceding claims, whereby a selection of] selecting a service provider [ensues dependent] depending on [the] a quality of service demanded by [the] a service user.

5. (Amended) An apparatus [Apparatus] for negotiating connection parameters in an intelligent communication network, comprising:

a storage device [means] for storing connection parameters about connections and service providers;

a first unit [means] for evaluating the service call; and [comprising means]

a second unit for forwarding the modifies service call to the service provider.

of the Disclosure

Abstract

Method for Negotiating Quality of Service Parameters in an Intelligent Network

~~The invention is directed to a method for fast, simple and resource-saving~~ negotiation of specific quality of service parameters in an intelligent network, particularly B-ISDN, required for the service provider and by the network itself. The SCP is already made aware of the possible values for specific parameters upon establishment of a new service provider. The negotiation of these parameters when calling this service only then occurs between the user of the service and the SCP.

Figure 1